MEMORABLES

1076. k. 15
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OF THE

MONTGOMERIES,

A NARRATIVE IN RHYME,

COMPOSED BEFORE THE PRESENT CENTURY.

PRINTED FROM

THE ONLY COPY KNOWN TO REMAIN,

WHICH HAS BEEN PRESERVED ABOVE SIXTY YEARS BY THE CARE OF HUGH MONTGOMERIE SENIOR AT EAGLESHAM, LONG ONE OF THE FACTORS OF THE FAMILY OF EGLINTOUN.

GLASGOW,

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MEMORABLES
OF THE
MONTGOMERIES.

A Noble Roman was the root
From which Montgomeries came,
Who brought his legion from the war,
And ſettled the ſame
Upon an hill 'twixt Rome and Spain,
† Gomericus by name;
From which he and his off-ſpring do
Their ſir-name ſtill retain.
From this unto the wars of France,
Their valour did them bring,
That they great inſtruments might be,
To ſave the Gallic king:
Here with great ſplendor and renown,
Six centuries they ſpend:
At length for England they ſet ſail;
Ambition hath no end.

† Mons Gomericus.

On Britiſh ground they land at length,
Rodger muſt general be,
A couſin of the conqueror's,
And fitteſt to ſupplie
The greateſt poſt into the field,
The army then leads he
Into a camp, Haſtings by name,
In Suſſex where you'll ſee
The marks of camps unto this day;
And where you'll hear it told,
The Engliſh king did them attack
Moſt like a captain bold.
But ſoon, alas! he found it vain,
With Rodger arms to try:
This warry officer prepares,
His projects to defy.
The ſtrong attacks he then obſerves,
Which made him thence to dread,
That England's king might be among
Thoſe who charg'd with ſuch ſpeed:

The life-guards ſtraight he ordered,
Their fury to defend;
Where Harold, England's king at once,
His crown and life did end.
Whence to the conqueror did come
The Engliſh ſcepter great,
And William, England's king declar'd,
To London came in ſtate.
† Earl Rodger then the greateſt man,
Next to the king was thought;
And nothing that he could deſire,
But it to him was brought.
Montgomery town, Montgomery ſhire
And earl of Shrewsburie,
And Arundale do ſhew this man,
Of grandeur full to be.
Thus did he live all this king's reign:
For works of piety,
He built an abbacie and then,
Prepar'd himſelf to die.

† Dugdale's Baronage, and Hiſtories of England.

At laſt king William yields to fate;
And then his ſecond ſon
Mounts on the throne, which had almoſt
The kingdom quite undone:
Some for the eldeſt ſon ſtand up,
As Rodger's ſons did all:
But the uſurper keeps the throne,
Which did begin their fall.
Then Philip into Scotland came,
Unable to endure;
That they who earldoms had poſſeſt,
Of nought ſhould be ſecure.
The king of Scots well knew the worth
Of men of noble race,
Who in no time of ages paſt,
Their worth did once deface.
He in the Merſe gives Philip lands,
Which afterwards he ſoon,
With the black Douglaſs did exchange
For Eaſtwood and Ponoon.

Where many ages they did live,
By king and country lov'd;
As men of valour and renown,
Who were with honour mov'd;
To ſhun no hazard, when they could
To either ſervice do:
Thus did they live, thus did they ſpend
Their blood and money too:
At laſt earl Douglaſs did inform,
That to our king's diſgrace:
An Engliſh earl had deeply ſwore,
He'd hunt in Chevychaſe;
And maugre all that Scots could do
Would kill and bear away
The choiceſt deer of Otterburn,
And beſt of harts would ſlay.
Our king ſent his commands unto
Sir Hugh Montgomerie,
And told him Douglaſs wanted men
Who fight could, but not flee.

* The ſtout ſir Hugh himſelf prepares,
The Douglaſs to ſupport;
And with him took his eldeſt ſon;
Then did they all reſort
Unto the field, with their brave men,
Where moſt of them did die;
Of fifteen hundred warlike Scots
Came home but fifty three.
Douglaſs was ſlain; ſir Hugh again
The battle did renew;
He made no ſtand, with his own hand
The earl Percie he ſlew.
Sir Hugh was ſlain, ſir John maintain'd
The honour of the day;
And with him brought the victory,
And Percy's ſon away.
He with his ranſom built Ponoon,
A caſtle which yet ſtands;
The king well pleas'd as a reward
Did therefore give him lands.

* Hiſtories of Scotland.

And ſome time after gave his niece,
Of Eglintoun the heir,
To ſir Hugh's repreſentative;
Thus joined was this pair.
As with her came a great eſtate;
So by her did deſcend,
Her royal blood to * Lennox houſe,
Which did in Darnly end,
Who father was to James the ſixth,
Of Britain the firſt king,
Whoſe royal race unto this day,
Doth o'er great Britain reign.
Since you are come of royal blood,
And kings are ſprung from you,
See that with greateſt zeal and love,
Thoſe virtues ye purſue,
Which to thoſe honours rais'd your houſe,
And ſhall without all ſtain,
In heralds books your enſigns flowr'd,
And counter-flowr'd maintain.

* Earl of Lennox.

FINIS.

And long time after gave his place,
Of Eglinton the Heir,
To Sir Hugh's representative;
Thus joined was this pair,
As with her came a great estate;
So by her did defend,
Her royal blood to * Lennox bore,
Which did in Darnly end,
Who father was to James the Sixth,
Of Britain [illegible]
Whole royal race [illegible] this day,
Doth o'er great Britain reign.
Since you are come of royal blood,
And hinge are from you,
See that with gravity and love,
Thole things ye practice,
Which to thole honours [illegible] your house,
And shall without blemish,
In heralds books your configne bowed,
And counter-bowed remain.

* Earl of Lennox.

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